**Benefits**
- Standards are quickly accessible, providing consistency
- Components are quickly laid out in a familiar sketch format
- Assembly intelligence speeds up creation and interaction of components
- Full solid representation allows for complete validation of complex assemblies
- Integration with core/cavity tools keeps multiple mold pieces properly constrained into the full mold assembly

**Features**
- Standard mold bases and components from D-M-E, Hasco, Futaba, Misumi and Strack
- User-defined mold bases and components
- Fully constrained assemblies allow for quick updates
- Advanced sketch layout tools for fast component creation
- Automatic hole creation for all mold plates
- Specialized viewing tools
- Automatic BOM with standard catalog numbers

**Summary**
NX™ I-deas™ VGX Mold Base software provides standard commercial mold base catalogs for the development of product molds. Mold bases and components from D-M-E, Hasco, Futaba, Misumi and Strack are available as fully constrained NX I-deas assemblies. Knowledge is embedded and because the assembly knows it is a mold, many design steps are automated and streamlined. This total solution provides productivity to mold makers.

**Automatic creation of mold assemblies**
Molds are complex mechanical assemblies, with many components interacting with each other. Historically, these mold assemblies have been created using 2D drafting packages, which is labor intensive and creates opportunity for error. VGX Mold Base automates the creation of solid assemblies of molds starting with standard or customized mold bases and components, resulting in significant reductions in the time required to design molds. Available standard catalogs include:
- D-M-E
- Futaba
- Hasco
- Strack
- User-defined

**Creating and modifying a mold base**
Through a set of streamlined commands, you can create a complete mold base assembly, which includes the

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NX I-deas VGX Mold Base

following components. 3D previews let you size the mold around your mold parts.
- Plates
- Leader pins
- Return pins
- Sprue puller pin
- Sprue bushing
- Locator ring
- Assembly screws
- Tubular dowel pins
- Stop pins

Guided ejection pins and bushings
- Support pillars
- Stop pins
- A half, B half and ejector screws
- An extensive cooling line cutter capability

Grid snap and alignment with neighboring components ensures quick and accurate placement.

Advanced features
VGX Mold Base allows assembly constraints to maintain the geometric relationships between the mold base components, allowing you to simulate advanced mechanical processes such as slider mechanisms.

As part of NX I-deas library check-in/check-out, data archiving and other capabilities such as associative drawings are available.

If the mold size is modified, components (and their clearance holes) are repositioned and the number of assembly screws is adjusted.

Corresponding holes will have the proper clearance. You can modify your mold automatically, from one standard mold base to another, including A series vs. B series, at any point in the lifetime of a mold base, not just during the initial construction.

You can customize the components using the existing NX I-deas capabilities, and VGX Mold Base still recognizes them as mold base.

Specialized hide/show and explode capabilities help you visualize and design the mold in 3D space. When the mold design is complete, you can generate a bill of materials to order standard and customized components from the suppliers and add to the drawings.

Adding mold components
Add dimension-driven intelligent mold features to your mold assembly using a unique 3D dynamic drag-and-drop preview capability to adjust size and position. This advanced sketching approach provides all the speed and convenience of 2D layout with the visualization and error-catching power of solid modeling. Quickly add:
- Inserts
- Ejector pins and sleeves
- Core pins and sleeves

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